



To ensure that Arizona's veteran community is kept "up to date" on what is happening with the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS), we offer this monthly update sent out to our veteran contacts throughout the State of Arizona. Please visit online: [www.azdvs.gov](http://www.azdvs.gov), <https://www.facebook.com/azdvs/>

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**ARIZONA STATE VETERAN HOME-PHOENIX (ASVH-Phoenix)**

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/asvhphx>  
 - Contents submitted by the ASVH-PHX Team



**December/January in Review**

ASVH-PHX had no content available for this issue. We'll catch them next time!





**ARIZONA STATE VETERAN HOME-TUCSON (ASVH-TUC)**

- Contents submitted by Sam Nanez, Ellie McLain, and Ellen Bittman



**December/January in Review**

Our Annual Holiday Open House was well-received. Our residents/veterans, staff, and volunteers look forward to doing some of their holiday shopping with the vendors who return year after year. They enjoyed the festivities of music, food, and carriage rides along with their shopping.







POW-WOW had its highest attendance in recent history at ASVH-Tucson with approximately 150 customers. We also had an arts and crafts vendor selling her products (scarfs, pillows, and team motif items).





No, this is not déjà vu. Not only do we have regular bingo on the Memory Care Unit, we also have Lotteria (Mexican bingo). The residents enjoy not only the game, but learning some Spanish words in the Lotteria games.





The Elks Holiday Party was enjoyed by the residents. The residents were given gifts that they had requested, which made the gifts very personal. The Elks have always gone above and beyond in making sure the residents' gift wishes are fulfilled. The Elks Organization has taken on Building 3 for the past 4 years in decorating the building with holiday décor to include each neighborhood.





The Annual Holiday Party hosted by the VFW was enjoyed by all. The residents enjoyed the visit with Santa, Santa's helpers, and one of the Cootie Commanders. The residents enjoyed the holiday costumes.





Miniature Horse Therapy continues to be a successful program at ASVH-Tucson. Residents and staff look forward to their visits on a monthly basis. Mrs. Howell, an ASVH-Tucson resident and spouse of a veteran also residing at ASVH-Tucson, enjoyed connecting with the miniature horses. It reminded her of time spent on her family farm.





Marcia & Ron Boyd donated 120 crocheted fleece blankets. Last year, she donated approximately 25 blankets during the holiday season of 2015. She made it a goal/project to have 120 blankets this year so that each resident could receive one for the holidays. On behalf of ASVH-Tucson, a big "Thank you" for the care, effort, thoughtfulness and time dedicated to this project.



The American Legion Auxiliaries Christmas Party was well-attended. They provided holiday gifts for all of our residents and a holiday banquet for all to enjoy. Santa passed out gifts to all of our residents.





Members of the Purple Heart Organization passed out holiday gifts on Christmas Eve. Residents and families greatly appreciated their thoughtfulness. Santa paid some door-to-door visits as well.



On December 31st, the Knights of Columbus New Year's Eve party was held complete with party favors, champagne, and finger foods. We sang Auld Lang Syne as we welcomed 2017.





Morris' (our resident therapy cat) fundraiser/pet food drive was a success. Pictured below is an ALA Unit 109 member, Mary Tonik, who picked up more than 75 pounds of dog food to be donated to homeless veterans for their four-legged companions (fur kids). Approximately 60 pounds of both wet and dry cat food was donated to Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter along with a \$25 cash donation.

Residents were in awe over the double rainbow over ASVH-Tucson. A couple stated they were going to go hunt for the pot of gold.





Right, our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Cook-off was a success. Pictured below are the four top winners (from left to right: Delene Sabol; Barbara Kasper; Tricia Mateosky; and Sam Nanez). Residents enjoyed tasting and judging the variety of chilis.



Our Memory Care gardening program continues to bloom. Pictured left is Resident Dorothy Perkins watering succulents and poinsettias.

Below, our Chinese New Year celebration was hosted by a Filipino organization represented by Estrella Harvey and Rose Torcende, our Evenings House Supervisor. We celebrated the Year of the Rooster with Adobo Chicken served with white rice and another chicken dish with fresh vegetables, rice noodles, pot stickers, a chocolate and a white cake, and fortune cookies.





## ASVH-TUC: Coming Soon

- February outings include: Walmart on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>; Family Dollar on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>; and Desert Diamond Casino on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup>. On February 9<sup>th</sup> lunch at Lens Chinese Buffet. On February 3<sup>rd</sup> Cinemark Movie Theater for a matinee of A Dogs Purpose.
- March outings include: Walmart on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>; Family Dollar on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>; and Desert Diamond Casino on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>. On March 9<sup>th</sup> lunch at Golden Corral. On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, Cinemark Movie Theater for a matinee to be determined.
- On Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m., Super Bowl Tailgate Party in the Sports Lounge. The Patriots vs. the Falcons. Pizza, wings, beer, chips, dips, salsa, bean dip, and BBQ links will be served.
- On Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. we have an outing to the Tucson Gem & Mineral Show.
- On Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in the Chapel/Community Room, the Elks host a Valentine's Day ice cream social.
- On Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., Produce on Wheels Without Waste (POW-WOW). For a donation of \$10, you may take up 60 pounds of produce.
- On Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m., DAV hosts bingo followed by cake and ice cream.
- On Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m., ALA Casa Grande hosts Bingo in the Building 2 Recreation Room.
- On Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m., ASVH-Tucson celebrates Arizona Statehood, Valentine's Day, and Morris' (pet therapy cat) 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. Dessert items will be served. Every resident will get their own heart-shaped box of chocolate.
- On Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m., AMVET/American Legion will host Bingo in the Chapel/Community Room.
- On Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 p.m., VFW/ALA hosts the monthly birthday party.
- On Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2:30 p.m., the Elks host Bingo in the Chapel/Community Room.
- On Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m., La Fiesta de los Vaqueros Tucson Rodeo parade goes by ASVH-Tucson. A Rodeo BBQ (hamburgers and hot dogs with all the fixings) will follow in the Chapel/Community Room accompanied by music by Country Duo.
- On Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m., Little Hooves and Big Hearts visit with the miniature therapeutic horses.
- Coming in March: St. Patrick's Day party; March Madness Basketball Tournament Viewing; and a quarterly Memorial & Remembrance ceremony.
- Musical entertainment coming in February includes:
  - On Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:30 p.m., Georgia's Gift of Music with musical instruments and song.
  - On Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m., Southern Arizona Arts Council Association provides the entertainment for happy hour.
  - On Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m., Dr. Lois Wilde performs Broadway musicals.
  - On Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m., Over the Hill Vets performs country music/Bluegrass in the Chapel/Community Room.



- On Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:30 a.m. Country Music Duo performs country music in the Chapel/Community Room.
- On Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m., Ivan Denis performs guitar music in the Chapel/Community Room.

➤ Donations recently received by ASVH-Tucson:

1. On 12/06/16, Edward and Patricia Rivers donated a hardback Military book collection, for which they gave an estimated value of \$1,500.
2. On 12/06/16, Toni Marongelli donated 4 lap quilts, 1 scarf, 1 shawl with an estimated value of \$50.
3. On 12/06/16, Mary Louise Callesen donated a 35 pack of Coke, 4 12-packs of Coke and 12 Cokes for a combined estimated value of \$21.44.
4. On 12/19/16, American Legion Auxiliaries Oro Valley Unit 132 donated: 10 hand crocheted lap robes; cookie platters; 19 Military times newspapers; 99 paperback books; 2 cassette books on tape with a combined estimated value of \$450.
5. On 12/20/16, Janice Pekelder donated books for the library with credit to Picture Rocks Community Center.
6. On 12/20/16, Mary Tonik on behalf of ALA Unit 109 donated candy bags and candy with an estimated value of \$50.
7. On 12/20/16, ALA Unit donated candy for Christmas bags, chips for the holiday luncheon and Christmas ornaments for ASVH-Tucson residents with a combined estimated value of \$200.
8. On 12/23/16, Marcia & Ron Boyd donated 120 crocheted fleece blankets with an estimated value of \$3,000.
9. On 12/24/16, Sheron Jones on behalf of American Gold Star Mothers donated a check in the amount of \$500.
10. On 12/30/16, Sheri Steinemann donated two bags of dog food with an estimated value of \$12.
11. On 01/05/17, Green Valley Elks #2592 donated a quilt, games, Dominoes, and sports clothing with an estimated value of \$180.
12. On 1/6/17, Douglas May, a resident of ASVH-Tucson, donated a power wheelchair with an estimated value of \$2,000.
13. On 01/08/17, Jim Silverthorn donated 11 calendars and 5 magazines.
14. On 01/09/17, ALA Oro Valley Unit 132 donated 8 hardback books, 2 USMC coffee mugs, 1 Teddy Bear Soldier, 12 DVDs, 1 USMC beer stein, 7 magazines, 1 photo album, and 2 craft kits with an estimated value of \$105.
15. On 01/30/17, ALA Unit 109 donated 2 dignity blankets with an estimated value of \$75.
16. On 01/30/17, Pam Gorecki on behalf of ALA Unit 109 donated one quilted lap robe.
17. On 01/30/17, Dorie Lessa donated 30 lap robes with an estimated value of \$600.
18. On 01/30/17, Mary Tonik on behalf of ALA Unit 109 donated \$10 cash for bingo prizes.

***Thanks to all for the much needed and much appreciated donations!!!***



## ARIZONA VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERIES (AVMC)

We are delighted to be able to provide three beautiful final resting places for our veterans and loved ones.

AVMC Camp Navajo	<a href="#">Web</a>	<a href="#">Facebook</a>
AVMC Marana	<a href="#">Web</a>	<a href="#">Facebook</a>
AVMC Sierra Vista	<a href="#">Web</a>	<a href="#">Facebook</a>



### AVMC Camp Navajo

- Memorial Day Ceremony - Details to be announced

### AVMC Marana

- Spring 2017 MIAP Mission for Saturday April 15, 2017 – Details to be announced
- Memorial Day Ceremony - Details to be announced

### AVMC Sierra Vista

- May 13, 2017: Hospice Valor will be hosting their annual Celebration of Life butterfly release ceremony at the Assembly Area.
- May 29, 2017, 8:30am: Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Sierra Vista Chapter will be hosting the Memorial Day observance ceremony at the Southern Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery.



On February 25<sup>th</sup> Advance Noncommissioned Officers class from Ft. Huachuca refurbished, sanded and resealed and stained the benches at the Committal Shelter.









## ADVS Events

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Please see our ADVS Facebook page, noted on the front page of this Newsletter, for more events in daily life in and around our agency. Here's a copy of the link: <https://www.facebook.com/azdvs/>

- [Native American Settlement Fund](#)
- [Get your DD214 using this web page](#)